

ST. BENEDICT
CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL



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November 18, 2020

Dear Parents:

Today marks the 50th day of the school year. Our students have been actively engaged in in-person learning throughout this time. Students have been amazing at adapting to protocols and their new learning environment. Our teachers have developed routines and lessons that address the academic and social emotional needs of their students. Anyone who walks through the halls can feel the positive impact all of these efforts have produced.

As you are aware the number of positive COVID cases in New Jersey, and more specifically Monmouth County are at the highest levels in months. Let me be perfectly clear, we currently DO NOT have any confirmed cases for faculty, students, or staff at St. Benedict School. We have worked diligently to protect everyone in our community and efforts have been successful.

However, exposures (direct and indirect) are on the rise. The New Jersey Department of Health does not require contacts of exposures (Secondary Exposure) to quarantine. We at St. Benedict School have instructed our faculty and staff who have experienced secondary exposure to remain at home until the person that has been exposed (primary exposure) receives a negative test. We have been challenged in finding adequate substitutes to cover classes. Therefore, next Monday and Tuesday (November 23rd and November 24th) we will make virtual half days and give everyone a much needed and deserved day off on Wednesday, November 25th. This will lead us directly into our scheduled Virtual Week. As a result of making these extra two days of virtual learning, St. Benedict School will experience 14 days of limited exposure.

During Virtual Week, we will conduct additional deep cleaning of the facility. We feel this is a proactive approach to limit future exposures and will return to in person learning on Monday, December 7, 2020.

Thank you for your understanding.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Donahue', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Kevin Donahue